

[17 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

the decision taken by Government in 1996-97 granting waiver of loans to such people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENHAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) A representation from "November 1984 Riots Victims Association" for rehabilitation of riot victims in Uttar Pradesh was recently received.

(b) and (c) The Government of NCT of Delhi has made payment of enhanced death compensation as per the orders of the Delhi High Court to all eligible applicants except in hundred cases where the issue of succession etc. could not be determined so far.

The Union of India have also requested the State Governments to consider extending the benefits allowed by the Delhi High Court to the victims of 1984 riots in their respective states so that the existing disparity between the compensation paid to the victims in Delhi and outside is removed.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rejection of Hizbul ceasefire by other Militant outfits

2515: SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been an unilateral ceasefire announcement by Hizbul Muzahideen recently;

(b) if so, whether the ceasefire offer is conditional;

(c) whether Government are also aware that nine militant groups have rejected ceasefire call; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENHAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Hizbul-Mujahideen has since withdrawn the cease-fire. The Government will consider any move of talks with all those in Kashmir

who eschew the path of terror and violence. However Government would continue its battle against all those who continue to stick to that path of terror.

Opening of Nagaland for Foreign Tourists

2516. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have opened Nagaland to foreign tourists, if so, the details in this regard;

(b) what is their response thereto;

(c) whether adequate publicity has been given to this effect through our Embassies so that inflow of foreign exchange and foreign tourist is increased;

(d) whether Government have undertaken any steps to take care of the security of the foreign tourists; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The Government of India has on 11.4.2000 partially relaxed procedures relating to the issue of Protected Area Permits for Nagaland with the aim and objective of Promoting tourism in the State. Foreign nationals are now permitted to enter through declared entry and exit points and visit specified tourist circuit area in 4 districts namely Dimapur, Kohima, Wokha and Mokokchung.

(b) It is too early to assess the impact of the relaxations.

(c) All Indian Missions and Posts abroad have been informed of the relaxations.

(d) and (e) Security concerns of the visiting foreign tourists will be met by the State Government.